(viii) CNG is supplied for automobiles through a number of retail outlets in Delhi and Mumbai to cater to the CNG fitted vehicles.

(ix) Twenty-four critically polluted areas have identified for pollution abatement and improvement the environment. Action plans have been drawn up for restoration of environmental quality in these areas.

(x) Subsidy has been provided for catalytic converter and CNG kits to be fitted in the vehicles.

(xi) Urban afforestation is being promoted to check air pollution.

Killing of Olive Ridley Turtles in Orissa

921. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that 2000 Olive Ridley Turtles were killed in December, 1999 in Orissa; and

(b) if so, whether trawling in the area would be banned to protect the maritime resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) It is a fact that more than 2000 Olive Ridley Turtles were killed in Gahirmatha and Kujanga coastline of Orissa during December 1999.

(b) For protecting the marine wildlife, the crucial habitat of the species near Dhamra mouth has been declared as Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary. The trawling in that area is banned. Extensive patrolling is being carried out with the help of Coast Guards for checking illegal trawling in the area.